



## City of LaVerkin

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www.laverkin.org

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### **Confluence Park Executive Board and Technical Advisory Committee Minutes Wednesday, August 17, 2016 4:00 p.m. 435 N. Main, LaVerkin, Utah**

#### **Present:**

##### **Board Members:**

Lynn Chamberlain  
Kerry Gubler  
Paul Heideman  
Clark Fawcett

Washington County-HCP  
La Verkin City  
Toquerville City  
Hurricane City

##### **Others:**

Steve Meismer  
Rhett Boswell  
Kathleen Nielson  
Dennis Kay  
Mike Chandler  
Ken Hooten  
Christy Ballard

VRP  
UDWR  
Grant Writer  
VRLPA  
Ash Creek SSD  
La Verkin City Council Representative  
La Verkin City

I. **Meeting Called to Order:** Kerry Gubler called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

#### **II. Approve Minutes:**

**Motion was made by Lynn Chamberlain to approve the June 15, 2016 minutes, second by Paul Heideman. Lynn-yes, Kerry-yes, Paul-yes. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **III. Business:**

##### **A. Discussion on the Irrigation System for Confluence Park**

Ash Creek Sewer District had not arrived so the Board moved on to the next business item.

##### **B. History of the Park Report-Kathleen Neilson**

Kathleen is still working on the report.

##### **C. Discussion on the Confluence Park camping policy**

The current camping policy is by permit only and has been issued for group camping only. The Red Cliffs Desert Reserve issues those permits verbally. There are no specifics on how long a group can stay.

There is a sign that states "Camping by permit only" at the parking lot but the Board/Committee was not sure about the other entrances to the Park.

Mayor Gubler would like to allow camping in the Park but feels it needs to be monitored by permits.

Paul pointed out having a paper permit would help the police officers that patrol the Park.

*Clark Fawcett and Mike Chandler arrived at 4:06pm*

Lynn would like to formalize the permitting process. He will take that assignment.

#### **A. Discussion on the Irrigation System for Confluence Park**

Mike Chandler reported La Verkin City, Ash Creek Sewer District and the County came to an agreement that Ash Creek SSD would install the irrigation line. It will be an extension of the Riverwood pressurized secondary system. The line will run past the existing parking lot with a stub out there and continue to the north end of the dairy pasture. There is an existing 12" line that crosses under La Verkin Creek so the new line will go under the Creek to water the parcel on the west side. As far as additional stub outs, La Verkin and Ash Creek SSD will meet to go over what each of them will need. They will also go over each entity's agreements.

*Rhett Boswell arrived at 4:09pm*

The plan Ash Creek SSD was given, and what they are planning on installing, has the water stubbed to the fields. This raises a question of application of the water. Ash Creek SSD would eventually like to install sprinklers but it will probably take most of next year to have that completed. Mike wondered if flood irrigation could be an option for now.

Mayor Gubler doesn't think La Verkin's system could handle servicing the residents at the same time the Park is flood irrigating.

Mike explained the main irrigation line should be completed by the end of 2016 but it will be early to mid-year 2017 before they could have the sprinkling system installed.

Representatives from Zimmatic and Moyle Irrigation will give their advice on sprinkling system layout to help get a good crop of orchard grass. Ash Creek SSD doesn't have equipment small enough to run alfalfa in those fields.

Mike thought the Park was going to have someone graze the fields until the sewer facility went in and Ash Creek SSD would manage their parcels.

Ash Creek SSD will fence their 40-acre parcel on the north end but there is not adequate fencing for grazing.

Mike discussed some additional areas in Confluence Park to distribute water once the facility is built and it starts to grow. The plant will produce more water than the land in the current agreement will need.

There will also be an issue of what to do with the water in the wintertime.

Ash Creek SSD would like to start to develop the plan addressing those issues, such as what to do with the additional water once the growth starts as well as how they will section off the facility.

2020 is the earliest the sewer facility will be completed, until then the County will be responsible for leasing out the fields.

It will be a land application facility, with Ash Creek SSD re-using as much water as they can. The more water that can be used the more money Ash Creek SSD will save.

The facility will produce Type 1 water, which is able for human contact.

Mike doesn't think it will meet the low phosphorous limits to discharge directly into La Verkin Creek.

They will have to chlorinate the water, however, it will be the minimal amount because of the proximity to the three water bodies in the area.

Winter water is still an issue. In 2017 Ash Creek will be discussing their Capital Facilities Plan and the permitting and design of the new facility. The Board will decide then how to handle the issue.

Mike went over some of the options the Board will be looking at.

Steve mentioned the Virgin River Program can help if necessary. He has been in discussions where creating a marsh area in the Park was brought up for a Fly Catcher habitat, which could help with the phosphorous issue.

Mike said he has talked to Lynn about a master plan for the Park to possibly create areas like a wetland marsh. This is the area where Ash Creek SSD will need input from this Board.

Lynn mentioned a wetland would be a good idea to have in Confluence but wondered about having the water to maintain it.

Mike discussed the potential growth in La Verkin and Toquerville with the Conservancy District possibly building a new reservoir at Anderson Junction. If the Toquerville bypass road comes in that will open up the west fields area for growth. This road hasn't been incorporated into the plan. Ash Creek SSD currently gets a little under half a million gallons from across the bridge each day, that amount will take care of 90-99% of the 75 acres in the Park. It's what comes after that he has to find a place for.

Pumping costs to reach the 80-90psi needed to get back into La Verkin's system adds significantly to his final cost. He would like to keep the irrigation level system at 30-50psi in the lower area. That will help Ash Creek SSD as well as Confluence Park.

Rhett suggested putting in a native plant nursery. Plants that will help the wildlife in the Park but also perhaps leasing an area to grow more resilient, lower elevation plants like a willow farm.

Kathleen thanked Ash Creek SSD for their assistance in getting the irrigation water to the Park.

Mike commented the original alignment for the irrigation line was going to hug the hillside like the proposed sewer line. Where does the Board want to run the irrigation line? Ash Creek SSD will be working with La Verkin to keep the sewer line against the hill to maintain the height needed.

Steve said the original plan was to only dig one trench for a couple of reasons, one of which is to keep lines away from the streams.

Mike stated Ash Creek SSD will move forward with that plan.

The sewer line will be a 24" line and digging the trench will need to be contracted out.

They will plan on including the irrigation line as well as a couple of 2" conduits for fiber optic communications and electrical.

Mike may contact the other entities to see if they would like to run anything in the trench as well.

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**IV. Public Concerns for Board Consideration:**

No comments were made.

**V. Board Members Concerns:**

Steve reported the Washington County Water Conservancy District did purchase the old Ken Anderson property. The anticipated plan is to use it as environmental mitigation over time.

The parcel does still allow development, but they don't currently plan on doing that.

The County has the right of first refusal if they choose to sale.

Access to the property is the biggest issue for development.

There may be some water shares tied to the property that could benefit the fish population in Ash Creek which tends to dry up during the summer.

Paul asked if there were any provisions made for people with disabilities to visit the Park.

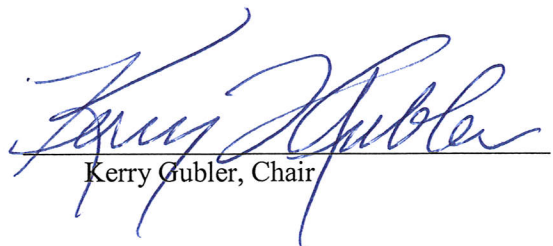
Steve replied there has been nothing formal passed but the gates have been open for groups and people with disabilities.

**VI. Adjourn:**

**Motion was made by Lynn Chamberlain to adjourn, second by Paul Heideman. Lynn-yes, Kerry-yes, Paul-yes, Clark-yes. Motion carried unanimously at 4:51pm.**

Minutes taken by Christy Ballard.

September 21, 2016  
Date Approved

  
Kerry Gubler, Chair